



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

DRAFT

YSB Advisory Minutes
September 13, 2016
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall
Youth Services Office

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Maggie Ferron, Early Childhood Services Coordinator
Eileen Griffin, LCSW
Larry Barlow, MMS Vice Principal
Charles Leavens, EO Smith School Counselor
Danielle Annibalini, Youth Services Social Worker
Luke Perry, Student Representative

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 12:06 PM by Ethel Mantzaris.

II. Approval of minutes

- Approval of minutes May 10, 2016

III. Reports

- Youth Services Staff Report – Danielle Annibalini and Maggie Ferron

Youth Services Supervisor position: Second interviews have been completed in anticipation that an offer will be made to the preferred candidate.

Interns: YS has welcomed two BSW interns from ECSU and one Human Development and Family Studies intern from UConn.

Boy's Group: Boy's Group was held twice at the end of the school year with support from a UConn college student as a male co-leader. During the summer months, interested Boy's Group members participated in a trip to the Storrs Adventure Park to zipline and discuss the 16/17 school year. Upcoming plans will include re-visiting recruitment of new members to increase participation.

Girl's Group: In June, two extended Girl's Nights were held at Town Hall. During the summer months, interested Girl's Group members participated in a trip to the Storrs Adventure Park to zipline and discuss the 16/17 school year. This school year, Girl's Group will be split into 5th/6th

and 7th/8th grade groups to accommodate the growing interest of students. Our BSW interns will be planning and implementing both groups.

Challenge: YS Social Worker attended the Challenge Program during the month of May along with 16 MMS students, EO Smith Staff, and MMS Staff members. Two post-Challenges reunions were held to celebrate the success of the 39th Challenge Program.

Camperships: YS received twenty campership applications for camp scholarships. Scholarship rewards were based on household size/income and fee waiver statuses.

Mustangs Services Learning Program: YS partnered with Parks and Rec. to facilitate a service learning program for youth in Mansfield and surrounding towns. The program was led by YS Social Worker, a Parks and Rec staff member, and a high school volunteer. Sites included: Bicentennial Pond, Saw Mill Brook Farm, Goodwin State Forest, Our Companions Animal Sanctuary, Tara Rescue Farm, and Glen Ridge.

COPE Luncheon: The luncheon was attended by former COPE participants (incoming 5th graders). The event was hosted by Youth Services, Kristina Lee (5th grade counselor), and MMS' Sunshine Club. Students had lunch and received a tour of MMS.

EO Smith Orientation: YS Social Worker attended EO Smith's freshman orientation to help welcome 9th grade students to the school.

Scrapbooking Grief Group: A scrapbooking grief group was facilitated over the summer months to provide group counseling to 2 families who have experienced loss. Both families will participate in the Big Friends and COPE Programs.

UConn: YS Social Worker attended the Community Outreach Orientation for UConn Site Leaders. We will have 4 Site Leaders this year (same as the previous year).

Emergency Preparedness Day: Event was held on Saturday, September 10th in the Community Center Parking lot and was available to all Mansfield families. UConn Police, Mansfield Fire Dept., and other agencies offered various activities for parents and children.

IV. Old Business:

- MAC Survey-Maggie is continuing to collect additional responses from parents and families; 54 responses so far. Families report that they're interested in attending community activities. Maggie will look to other agencies to partner with, ie. Mansfield Public Library to plan and host events.

V. New Business:

- The agreement was made to continue the meeting day and time. A representative from the elementary schools will be sought out as well as a parent representative to join the Board.

VI. Other:

- Maggie and Danielle attended the CYSA Eastern Regional Chapter meeting on September 12, 2016 where the topic of Opioid Prevention was discussed. Narcan availability and proper use will be added to next month's agenda.

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:46pm. Tuesday, October 11th, 2016 is the next meeting.